

Applicant: Mercy M. Davidson  
Serial No.: 09/604,876  
Filed: June 28, 2000  
Page 3

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of claims:**

1. - 2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) An immortalized human undifferentiated cardiomyocyte cell line, wherein the cardiomyocyte cell line is designated AC16 (ATCC Designation No. PTA-1500).
4. (Previously Presented) An immortalized human undifferentiated cardiomyocyte cell line, wherein the cardiomyocyte cell line is designated AC10 (ATCC Designation No. PTA-1501).
5. (Previously Presented) An immortalized human undifferentiated cardiomyocyte cell line, wherein the cardiomyocyte cell line is designated RL14 (ATCC Designation No. PTA-1499).
6. - 7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing a human undifferentiated immortalized cell line derived from a post-mitotic primary cell culture which comprises:

- (a) providing a cell culture of human primary post-mitotic cells;
- (b) providing a human fibroblast cell line which
  - (i) has been transfected with a replicable nucleic acid vector expressing SV40 large T antigen which immortalizes the fibroblast cell line, and
  - (ii) has been depleted of its mitochondrial DNA;
- (c) co-culturing the human fibroblast cell line of step (b) with the cell culture of step (a) under appropriate conditions so that cell fusion occurs;
- (d) growing the fused cells from step (c) in a selection medium which selects for cells with mitochondrial DNA; and
- (e) selecting cells from step (d) which
  - (i) contain a replicable vector that expresses SV-40 large T antigen, and

(ii) express one or more genes  
specifically expressed by the  
primary post-mitotic cell of  
step (a),

so as to prepare the human  
immortalized cell line.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the cell culture of human primary non-proliferating cells in step (a) is a cell culture of primary human cardiac cells, primary human skeletal myoblast cells, human neuronal cells, or primary human osteoblast cells.

10. - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the appropriate conditions for cell fusion in step (c) comprise incubation for about one minute in a 50% PEG solution.

13. - 19. (Cancelled)